

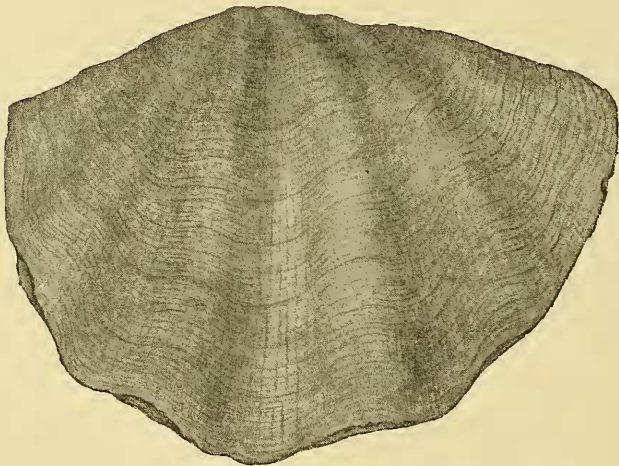
DESCRIPTION OF *TRIDACNA OBESA*, n.sp., FROM THE
PHILIPPINES.

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AMONGST a large quantity of marine shells collected many years ago in the Philippine Islands, that has recently come to light, are several species of *Tridacna*, including one which appears to be new to science. The collection contains many *T. squamosa* (Lamk.), of various sizes, one specimen of which, exceeding a foot in length, has the large vaulted scales, well preserved throughout, thus clearly distinguishing the species from *T. gigas* (Linn.). There are also specimens, in various stages of growth and development, of *T. elongata* (Lamk.), and *T. crocea* (Lamk.), as well as two shells of *T. serrifera* (Lamk.) and three of a very distinct form, which I propose to call—

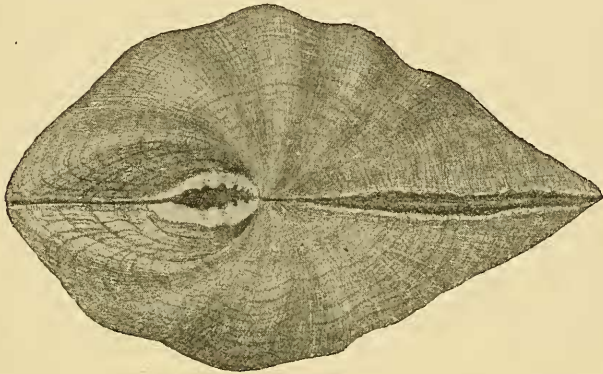
TRIDACNA OBESA, n.sp.



Testa ovata, gibbosa, ponderosa, sordide luteco-albida, antice truncata, postice acuminata, undique confertim concentricè striata, costis 4-5 latis, paulo elatis, levissime rotunde convexis, haud squamosis instructa, interstitiis amplis, radiatim striatis; margo dorsalis posticus elongatus, rectiusculus, anticus brevior, recte declivis;

hinnula concave depressa; hiatus parvus; umbones incurvati, contigui, ante medium siti. Long. 16, lat. 12, crass. 10 cm.

This species is remarkable for its smoothness and obesity, the smallness of the byssal opening, very low ribs, and peculiar form. In all the hitherto known species the umbones are situated either in the centre or towards the posterior end of the dorsal line, whereas in *T. obesa* they are nearer to the anterior.



Of the three specimens, I have chosen the one of medium size as the type, since it is the most characteristic and regular in form. The largest shell (21 cm. in length) is similar in essential characters, but somewhat distorted; whilst the smallest (14 cm. long) differs but little from the type.
